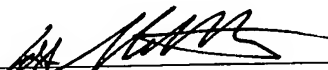


### REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments be entered prior to substantive examination of the application.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **EXPRESS MAIL** in an envelope numbered EV 341154027 US, Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on SEPT. 26, 2003.

  
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Georgeen E. George